

## CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES

Some of Them Go Back to the Days When the Country Was Struggling for Liberty.

### TOTAL REACHES MILLIONS

#### THANKLESS JOB OF CLAIMS COMMITTEE.

(Special to The Herald.) Washington, Feb. 4.—Uncle Sam has a large number of debts which might be classed as irregular and which might be adjudicated by congress and paid by legislative appropriation of funds, if they were found to be just and proper. The work of adjudicating these claims or claims falls upon the claims committee of congress. A short resume of the work of one of these committees—the claims committee of the senate—in the Fifty-fifth congress, will demonstrate fairly the extent of the work.

Of the 1,295 bills introduced in the senate during the Fifty-fifth congress, 2,079 were referred to the committee on claims—nearly 30 per cent. Besides bills, the committee receives all of the reports of the court of claims upon war claims, French spoliation claims, and various miscellaneous claims which have been referred to that court by the senate for findings of fact under the provisions of various acts of congress, and all of these findings must receive the same care, attention and consideration that would be accorded to any bill.

#### Grouped Into One Bill.

From time to time these findings of the court of claims, or so many of them as are deemed by the committee to warrant favorable action, are grouped into an omnibus claims bill. Such a measure, carrying \$2,331,310.23, became a law in the Fifty-eighth congress. One million one hundred and ninety-seven thousand, two hundred and seventy-two dollars and sixty cents of this amount was in settlement of civil war claims, and six hundred and sixty dollars and ninety-three cents was paid on French spoliation claims for the illegal seizure and condemnation of American vessels by the French army back in the late seventeen hundreds, wherein the owners had claims of indemnity upon the French government prior to the ratification of the convention between the United States and the French republic, concluded on Sept. 30, 1800, in which the claims were relinquished to France by the United States government in part consideration of the relinquishment of certain national claims of France against the United States. There are many more such claims still unsolved, though the majority have been paid since the passage of the French spoliation act of Jan. 20, 1885, and before many years the vessels, Forts, Fifty, the schooner Mary Ann and Maria, and their owners and masters of good old-fashioned Yankee names such as Shearwater, Bourne, Kimball, and others, fit Liberty Kimbly, Abijah Hull and George Makepeace, will be matters of the past.

#### Shortage of Clerks.

Notwithstanding the fact that the senate has committees appointed for the consideration of revolutionary war claims and Indian depredation claims, a great number of these classes are referred to the claims committee. And notwithstanding the volume of the committee's business, the law does not provide for a sufficiently large number of clerks to assist in its business under the chairman's direction, than is necessary. The committee has with much less business. Only one committee—pensions—receives more than the claims committee, but pensions has five clerical places besides the assistance of one expert detailed by the pension bureau and on its payroll, for the committee's advice and aid. The claims committee, with its 2,079 bills and other matters in the Fifty-eighth congress, has a shortage of clerks in places—four—as has the postoffice and postroads committee, with eighty-two bills in the Fifty-fifth congress, and the committee on finance with eighty-six bills; and it has only one more place than the committee on territories, with thirty-three bills in the Fifty-fifth congress; the committee on agriculture and forestry, with seventeen bills; committee on immigration with seven bills; the committee on the Philippines, with only four bills.

But though the range of the committee's work is vast and far-reaching, it does not cover everything that its name suggests to those uninformed as to legislative business. For instance, a modest old lady called at the committee room one afternoon and, after making sure of her bearings by inquiring whether she had found the committee, she proceeded to tell the clerk that she wished to take up a claim right away, and wanted a good one—preferably in Kansas. She was referred to the general land office for full particulars.

#### Many Freak Cases.

The filing cabinet of the claims committee's papers is the restful repository of many quaint and interesting documents, carefully preserved as records of the senate, not because of their value in bringing about legislation, but because they are would make it impossible to replace them by either original evidence, the original claimants, and in many cases their direct descendants being long since dead.

Every congress brings to the committee on claims many "freak" cases which have emanated from disordered brains of persons who feel, from cause or imagination, that the government has wronged them in some way. For instance, one of the old members of the committee would tell you, should you ask them, that if a claimant against the government isn't downright crazy when his claim is first presented to congress, he will be, from the worry and waiting, before it is paid. It would be difficult to state correctly the aggregate amount of the claims which are pending against the government and before the claims committee. They probably reach the sum of \$100,000,000. To sift through the thousands of claims, rejecting those without merit, and finally securing favorable action upon the meritorious ones is the herculean and thankless task of the claims committee.

To the People of Utah, Nevada, Colorado and Idaho:

NO SUN

has been shining in Salt Lake for two weeks, but tomorrow the sun will be shining, although it is cloudy today. Turn in your Bad Debts for collection and "let a little sunshine in." We are going to give a nice prize to the people who pay—so help "let a little sunshine in."

Merchants' Protective Association, scientific collectors of bad debts.

Francis G. Luke, General Manager, Commercial Block, Salt Lake City. "Some people don't like us."

Sixty Years' Experience of an Old Nurse.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is the prescription of one of the best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and has been used for sixty years with never-failing success by millions of mothers for their children. During the process of teething its value is incalculable. It relieves the child from pain, cures diarrhoea, griping in the bowels and wind colic. By giving the child to the child it rests the mother. Price 75 cents a bottle.

## BULL FIGHT FOR THE DELEGATES

Foreign Members of the Algeiras Conference Witness Bloody Spectacle.

### HORSES GORED TO DEATH

#### ALLEGED HORROR OF FOREIGNERS PRESENT.

Algeiras, Feb. 4.—The brilliant though bloody spectacle of a bull fight in honor of the conference on Moroccan reforms was the event of today. Crowds came from all parts of Andalusia to the vast stone amphitheatre where the bull ring is, and more than 6,000 persons saw the fight.

A box gaily decorated with the Spanish colors accommodated the ambassadors and officials of many countries. Most of the delegations to the conference were represented and many of the envoys were accompanied by their wives and daughters.

#### Duke Was on Hand.

The Duke of Almodovar, the Spanish foreign minister, who is president of the conference, accompanied by the duchess, was the center of a group of ambassadors and white-garbed Moors and throngs of Spanish women in picturesque costumes lent a touch of quaintness to the animated scene. American and British delegates did not attend.

Three celebrated bull fighters furnished the sport and the bulls were of the famous herd of Don Mariano Santa Maria of Seville. The first animal brought into the ring, a huge, black Andalusian beast, killed two horses before the matador, Lagartito, skillfully drove his sword to the hilt into the animal, which fell dead. Thousands cheered and the band played a Spanish fandango.

#### Sickening Scenes.

The second bull was covetously dedicated to the Duke of Almodovar by Matador Morenita, which is the custom of the country. It proved to be an ugly fighter and gored the blind horse of a picador. This bull also was dispatched. Another bull killed five horses, four of them dying in the arena, while the fifth, terribly gored, staggered outside and died. The picadors were often unhorsed, but none of them was seriously hurt. The skill of the matadors was shown as they procured the bull by following animals which were stung to madness by the darts with their gay streamers stuck into them.

The foreigners present witnessed the scene with mingled admiration and the audacity of the matadors and horror at its cruelty.

#### Can You Sleep?

If not, and you are growing nervous, despondent and run-down, you need

Palmo Tablets. They induce natural slumber, build up the nervous system, and make you feel and look years younger. 50 cents. Book Free. Address The S. R. Feil Co., Cleveland, O.

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The only lithographing house between Denver and the coast.

Genuine imported German canaries; splendid singers.

VOGELER'S SEED STORE.

## MANHATTAN IS LIVELY INDEED

Three Thousand People Located in the New Nevada Gold Camp and the Rush Continues.

### MINERS FROM EVERYWHERE

#### RICH CLAIMS CHANGING HANDS EVERY DAY.

(Special to The Herald.) Manhattan, Nev., Feb. 4.—When it was first made, the prediction that Manhattan would have a population of 10,000 in a few months was considered a wild guess. One thousand people have reached here in the last ten days or two weeks, and there are now fully 3,000 souls in camp. They come from everywhere. Conductors on the Southern Pacific highway on the north say that fully a fourth of their passengers going both east and west are ticketed Hazen, the junction with the new line going to the southern Nevada gold fields. Conductors on the Tonopah and Goldfield railroads report crowded trains going south. Most of the passengers are headed for Manhattan, but the Goldfield travel is heavier than for some time past. In two saloons last night there were fully 50 men going to the mines, all told. A majority of the men are very apparently Rocky mountain miners. They come from all over the great west. They love the mountains and the prospector's life and seldom stray far away from their calling, although they roam from Washington on the north, possibly from Alaska, too, to the Black Hills, Colorado, Arizona and Mexico and all the intervening territory. But the east is well represented, and among the crowd are men and boys from the mercantile pursuits of Chicago, New York and Boston, as well as business men from Nebraska and Iowa. The south also contributes its quota. There are about as many southerners as Englishmen in the camp, and always having a penchant for mining and for adventure.

#### Work Has Slackened.

While the camp is growing at such a phenomenal rate, work on the mining properties has perceptibly slackened, and while new strikes are continually being made, there is a lack of blasting and digging where the results are expected to be the most telling. This is because claim-owners are being besieged by would-be purchasers and are more interested in the extraordinary prices offered than in looking for more gold. Claims are continually changing hands at prices ranging from a few thousand dollars to \$50,000, the highest price recorded so far for a single claim. As the claims were all held, a few weeks ago by poor or fairly well-to-do prospectors, the elation and emotion of these men is indescribable. But the prospectors which have at this early stage of development given indication of their value are changing hands rapidly, and the prospectors will soon be out of the running. They are the ones who find new mineral districts, and they have their reward, but it is usually small compared with that of the capitalist who buys from them either for the purpose of developing a mine or for the purpose of trading for higher prices among themselves. Some of the prospectors hang on to the mine they thus make, but they never retire from the life of prospecting. A large number of the prospectors hang on to the mine they thus make, but they never retire from the life of prospecting. A large number of the prospectors hang on to the mine they thus make, but they never retire from the life of prospecting.

#### Many New Corporations.

Meanwhile, the men with money who are flocking thither are, as stated, acquiring mining properties and organizing mining companies through which to operate them. The idea of one man or set of men acquiring property and working it in their own name is now an unheard-of thing. Some mines in other states are known to belong to individuals and partnerships, but every mine in Nevada belongs to a corporation. An ambitious man might acquire all the stock in the corporation, but usually the most any one man does is to acquire a controlling interest. This is the stage of speculation in claims in Manhattan. Very soon will follow speculation in mining stock. But during the bull in digging for gold claim is being found. On the April Fool gold, already made prominent because it

was the site of the original discovery, four sets of leases have been let, and these men are in ore. On the Bond lease the shaft is all in ore and some of it assays \$30,000 to the ton. Such an assay could only come from a specimen streak, and is good as far as it goes, but the day has gone by when boosters can make the world believe that much of this class of rock is ever shipped to the smelters. However, when ore like this is found in any quantity there is always a body of high shipping ore, and the owner is an extremely fortunate man.

#### All Are Speculating.

By the way, it should have been noted above that the lessees have also acquired the speculation craze. Thus they are working but half-heartedly. These are poor men for the most part and are also prospectors and miners. As soon as they acquire a lease on good ground they commence to sell out to some body and many trades have been made of this class. Prices are high when the lease is first made, but there is always money coming forward from somewhere to be invested in a good thing, no matter what the price.

The Manhattan company, an organization of Goldfield capitalists, bought the Cracker Jack and Little Joe claims for \$2,000. The same company purchased the Granby, Elephant, Tiger, October, Sun Down and Triangle claims for \$35,000. Lots in the lower part of the canyon which were two weeks ago selling for \$700 are now changing hands at \$1,000. This is at the fork of the canyon and was at first thought a little out of the way. Other lots that reached the price of \$400 two weeks ago are also selling at \$1,000. Higher priced properties up town are held at \$4,000 and \$5,000, but there have been few sales within the past week. All lots were held at \$100 three months ago.

#### Branch Banks Opened.

The Nye & Ormsby County Bank and the State Bank & Trust company have both opened branch banks.

The Bank of Manhattan, an independent institution, has been organized with a capital of \$200,000, of which \$50,000 is paid up.

The Manhattan-Tonopah Brokerage Co. has been organized. George H. Bartlett, president; Walter H. Whitmore, vice president, and C. H. Barry, secretary and treasurer.

G. S. Johnson of Goldfield has secured an option on the St. George and Virginia properties, the price being \$20,000. These properties adjoin the Stray Dog and are numbered among the best prospects in camp. Mr. Johnson and his engineers have examined the properties thoroughly and are enthusiastic over them. Two shifts will start work at once. Mr. Johnson is still in camp and is negotiating for the purchase of some of the highest priced ground in camp.

Lessees on the Big Pine claim are in ore.

The Mayflower lessees are all in ore and piles of sacks are numerous and large.

On Union No. 9, Sinclair, Cole and Bart are still taking out rich ore, and the made, there is a lack of blasting and digging where the results are expected to be the most telling.

#### New Automobile Road.

The new automobile road from Tonopah is now completed a distance of forty miles from Tonopah and the graders will reach camp within two weeks. Five automobile companies are in operation. The fare is still \$15 both ways. The stage fare is \$7 both ways. A stage man who has been operating his own powerful automobile is earning an average of \$100 per day by making one round trip between Tonopah and Manhattan per day. This record may be beaten by some of the company automobiles, but these machines are subject to frequent accidents, because they carry from ten to fifteen passengers, and the cost of gasoline and constant repairs eats into the profits. One of the large machines was stalled the other day about twelve miles out with eight passengers. The owners paid \$250 to another automobile to drag them through.

#### WILL REBUILD THEATRE.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 4.—The Sullivan and Conside vaudeville circuit acquired the Savoy theatre last night and will rebuild it and add the house to their circuit.

## Hunyadi Janos

Natural Laxative Water. Half a glass upon arising acts gently and quickly, giving prompt relief. Try it NOW—to-day. Ask distinctly for Hunyadi Janos. Grand Prize, St. Louis Exposition, 1904.

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